

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 11-30. Claims 1-10 have been cancelled in favor of new claims 11-30 which have been rewritten to more clearly define the invention. Support for new claims 11-30 may be found, *inter alia*, in FIGS. 1-5 as filed, in the specification as filed at page 6 last paragraph, the paragraph bridging pages 7-8, page 13, last full paragraph and in the claims as filed. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as anticipated by US Patent Publication No. US2005/0164825 to Reisch. Essentially, it was the Examiner's position that Reisch discloses a continuously variable transmission substantially as set forth in the claims.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As set forth in new independent claim 11, Applicant's invention provides a continuously variable transmission having a first continuously variable transmission (6) including a first output bevel friction ring gear (2) and a second continuously variable transmission (7) including a second output bevel

friction ring gear (3). A central input bevel gear (1) is disposed between the first output bevel friction ring gear (2) and the second output bevel friction ring gear (3). The first continuously variable transmission (6), second continuously variable transmission (7) and central input bevel gear (1) are disposed parallel to one another in a gear train. A first displaceable friction ring (4) couples the first output bevel friction ring gear (2) to the central input bevel gear (1) and a second displaceable friction ring (5) couples the second output bevel friction ring gear (3) to the central input bevel gear (1). A pick-off gear (8) couples the first continuously variable transmission (6), the second continuously variable transmission (7) and an output member (9, 10).

As set forth in new independent claim 21, Applicant's invention provides a continuously variable transmission having a first continuously variable transmission (6) including a first input bevel friction ring gear (2) and a second continuously variable transmission (7) including a second input bevel friction ring gear (3). A central output bevel gear (1) is disposed between the first input bevel friction ring gear (2) and the second input bevel friction ring gear (3). The first continuously variable transmission (6), the second continuously variable transmission (7) and the central output bevel gear (1)

are disposed parallel to one another in a gear train. A first displaceable friction ring (4) couples the first input bevel friction ring gear (2) to the central output bevel gear (1) and a second displaceable friction ring (5) couples the second input bevel friction ring gear (3) to the central output bevel gear (1). A pick-off gear (8) couples the first continuously variable transmission (6), the second continuously variable transmission (7) and an input member (9, 10).

It is respectfully submitted that *Reisch* fails to teach or suggest a continuously variable transmission having the structure recited in Applicant's new independent claims 11 or 21. As set forth in new independent claims 11 and 21, Applicant's invention is directed to a continuously variable transmission having at least two partial transmissions wherein each of the partial transmissions comprises a continuously variable transmission. In addition, both of the partial (continuously variable) transmissions are coupled to a pick-up gear. As set forth in new independent claims 11 and 21, each of the partial transmissions include a respective bevel friction ring gear, in particular, output bevel friction ring gears are recited in claim 11 and input bevel friction ring gears are recited in claim 21.

The arrangement according to Applicant's claims 11 and 21

enables the use of one central bevel gear as an input or an output, with two side bevel gears disposed parallel to one another and to the central bevel gear in the gear train. This arrangement help to compensate radial forces arising in the transmission.

In contrast to Applicant's arrangement as set forth in new claims 11 and 21, Reisch shows a continuously variable transmission having two conical rollers with an idler between the two conical rollers which moves along the axis of the rollers to effect a change in the ratio of the transmission in an infinitely variable fashion.

As recited in claims 11 and 21, Applicant's continuously variable transmission has a "first continuously variable transmission" and a "second continuously variable transmission". The transmission according to Reisch, however, is only one single continuously variable transmission.

Moreover, as recited in Applicant's claim 11, "said first continuously variable transmission (6), said second continuously variable transmission (7) and said central input bevel gear (1) are disposed parallel to one another in a gear train". Likewise, new claim 21 recites "said first continuously variable

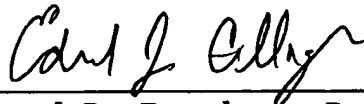
transmission (6), said second continuously variable transmission (7) and said central output bevel gear (1) are disposed parallel to one another in a gear train". Reisch fails to disclose or suggest two continuously variable transmissions and a central bevel gear that are disposed parallel to one another in a gear train.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Reisch fails to show the continuously variable transmission as recited in Applicant's new independent claims 11 and 21. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 11 and 21, and claims 12-20 and 22-30, which all depend directly or ultimately from claim 11 or 21, respectively, are patentable over the cited reference.

In summary, claims 1-10 have been cancelled in favor of new claims 11-30 which have been rewritten to more clearly define the invention. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims, which are claims 11-30, are patentable over the cited reference. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the final action and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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